



BY THE KING:



HEREAS this County, in which (out of Our experience of the good Affection thereof) We have chosen to make Our residence this Winter, is in great danger to suffer violence, and to receive losse and damage by the Incursions of the Rebells, who by reason of their number of Dragooners (with which they have furnished themselves by seizing of the Horses of any of Our loving Subjects, without their Consent, and to which they are authorized by a late pretended Ordinance) runne up and downe into severall Counties pillaging and plundring Our good Subjects with unheard of Rapine, Insolence, and Inhumanity, whilst Our Horse, for want of such Assistance in respect of the Lanes, and deep and narrow wayes, cannot prevent those outrages. Though We hope never to be forced to follow the example of these ill Men (who having received such vast summes of Money from Our Subjects, and seized all Ours, can yet have no cause for such impositions but their love of Rapine) to lay such burthens upon Our People, albeit for their preservation, as the Committees in severall Counties have authority, and are directed to doe by that Ordinance, yet We have thought fit to declare, That it will be an exceeding acceptable service unto Us, and Wee shall take it as a singular testimony of their affection, and their sense of the Cause, if they shall at this time send in Horses, Geldings, Mares, or Naggs, to be used as Dragoone-Horses for Our service, and the defence of this County: And to that purpose Our Will and Pleasure is, that this Our Declaration be read in all Churches and Chappels on Sunday next, both at Morning and Evening Prayer, not doubting but that every Gentleman and other substantiall Free-holder, and the Inhabitants of every Parish by joyn't consent will send in such Horses as aforesaid, with Saddles and Bridles; And whosoever can send in men armed with Musquets upon those Horses shall much adde to his Service. And Our pleasure is, that all such who are willing to gratify Us herein, shall bring or send their Horses on Thursday next to the signe of the Katherine Wheele in Oxford, and deliver them to the hands of Our trusty and wellbeloved Winter Graunt Esquire, Our Waggon-Master Generall, who shall be there ready to receive them. And We Command the Constable of every Hundred receiving information from the severall Petty-Constables within their Hundred, to bring in a note of the names of all such Parishes and particular Persons who upon this so visible occasion shall oblige Us in this kind, and present the same unto Us, with the number of Horses, Men, and Musquets so sent by them, that We may remember it to their advantage; and when it shall please God to enable Us, pay them the true value, which We doe hereby promise to doe, and such Persons who shall then offer themselves to serve on the said Horses shall be then Listed and entred into pay, as the rest of Our Dragoones are; And We hope the Threats, Menaces and Compulsion of the Rebells shall not more work upon Our People for their supply, then this gratiouse desire and earnest Entreaty of Ours shall doe in a Case wherein they, Wee, and the Publique, are so nearely concerned.

God save the King.